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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/534,901

03/23/2000

Eric M. Foster

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11/13/2003

EXAMINER

MIRZA, ADNAN M

WHITHAM, CURTIS & CHRISTOFFERSON, P.C.
11491 SUNSET HILLS ROAD
SUITE 340
RESTON, VA 20190

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2141

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/534,901	FOSTER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Adnan M Mirza	2141	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komi et al (U.S. 6,477,185) and Mao (U.S. 6,459,427).

As per claim 1 & 8 Komi disclosed a method of filtering a data stream containing transport table sections, said method comprising steps of determining presence of transport table sections in a payload portion of a packet of said data stream from table identification (TID) field in a header of said packet (col. 7, lines 16-21), and combining compare result values in accordance with a logic values of not match bits in a not match indication register (col. 7, lines 22-26, whereby an arbitrary length of said transport table sections are filtered by an arbitrary number of filters having arbitrary filter functions (col. 7, lines 28-40).

Komi did not disclose in detail filtering a portion of said transport table sections in accordance with a mask which defines a filter function and a logic state of a not match bit to provide a compare result, selecting a next mask and a portion of said transport table sections in accordance with a filter ID.

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In the same field of endeavor Mao disclosed Basically the HTML pages (URLs) and their control map information are either mapped directly onto the sections of the MPEG-2 transport stream or mapped through an intermediate layer such as UDP/IP and then encapsulated in the sections of the MPEG-2 transport stream. Multiple sections form a table. Each table can be separated and filtered by the set top decoder through tableID and /or table ID_extensions fields. The MPEG-2 table structure is segmented and carried over MPEG-2 transport packets, which can be filtered through the PID (packetID) by the decoder (col. 7, lines 65-67 & col. 8, lines 1-7).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated disclosed filtering a portion of said transport table sections in accordance with a mask which defines a filter function and a logic state of a not match bit to provide a compare result, selecting a next mask and a portion of said transport table sections in accordance with a filter ID as taught by Mao in the method of Komi to optimize bandwidth by discarding unwanted Packets or sections of tables.

3. As per claims 2 & 9 Komi-Mao disclosed wherein said filter ID is implemented in a control word (Komi, col. 11, lines 5-11).

4. As per claims 3 & 10 Komi-Mao disclosed wherein said Filter ID includes a section filter ID and a next filter ID (Komi, col. 11, lines 5-11).

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5. As per claims 4 & 11 Komi-Mao disclosed wherein said combining step includes ANDing or ORing compare result values of a bit or over a group of bits in accordance with logic values of not match bits corresponding to sad bit or group of bits (Komi, col. 12, lines 26-37).

6. As per claims 5 & 12 Komi-Mao disclosed wherein said combining step further includes the step of accumulating a match word over a plurality of blocks of filtered data (Komi, col. 7, lines 27-34)).

7. As per claims 6 & 13 Komi-Mao disclosed wherein said step of accumulating a matchword is performed by ANDing a current matchword bit with a corresponding bit of a previous matchword if the filtering applied to the current block is positive or mixed filtering, and ORing a current matchword bit with a corresponding bit of a previous matchword if the filtering applied to the current block is negative filtering in accordance with said contents of said not match indication register (Komi, col. 7, lines 27-41).

8. As per claims 7 & 14 Komi-Mao disclosed wherein said step of accumulating a matchword is performed in accordance with logic functions specified by at least one extra bit (Komi, col. 12, lines 53-67).

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Applicant's arguments are as follows:

9. Applicant argued that prior art filtering is completely different data elements against completely different criteria than of the claimed invention.

As to applicant's argument, Mao disclosed each table can be separated and filtered by the set-top decoder through table ID and/or tableID_extension fields (col. 8, lines 3-5). One ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention can interrupt that filtering process can be performed by setting different parameters or adjusting different criterias.

10. Applicant argued that prior art does not disclose the filter ID and Program ID with Not match bits.

As to applicants argument Komi disclosed the PID table contains N PID's , and index numbers as storage numbers are allotted to the respective PID storage positions. When a user selects a desired TS packet such as a program, the CPU designates a PID corresponding to the TS packet in the PID table (col. 6, lines 15-21).

Applicant argued that packet ID in the prior art is not same as table identification (TID) filed in a header of said packet.

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11. As to applicants argument one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention can interrupt TID as a PID in the header of the said packet. The ID in the header is considered as a filtering criteria where it can be named any thing but the functionality of the ID in the header stays the same.

Conclusion

12. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Adnan Mirza whose telephone number is (703)-305-4633.

14. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday during normal business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (703)-308-5221. The fax for this group is (703)-746-7239.

15. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-746-7239 (For Status Inquiries, Informal or Draft Communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT");

(703)-746-7239 (For Official Communications Intended for entry, please mark "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE"),

(703)-746-7238 (For After Final Communications).

16. Any Inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-3900.

Any response to a final action should be mailed to:

BOX AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C.20231

Or faxed to:

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to 4th Floor Receptionist, Crystal Park II,
2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202.

AM

Adnan Mirza

Examiner


RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER